

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AR

SUBJECT: QUARTERLY NARCOTICS REPORT, ARGENTINA, JULY-SEP 74

REF: A. A-4700, 10 JUN 74, B. BA 5054

1. SUMMARY. THE QUARTER WAS ESSENTIALLY QUIET IN THE NARCOTICS AREA, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS MOVEMENT ON NEW NARCOTICS LEGISLATION AND SOME DEVELOPMENT IN EDUCATION. END SUMMARY

2. ABUSE. NO ADDITIONAL DATA IS AVAILABLE ON PATTERNS. THE BADO REPORTS THAT IT SENSES A GREATER AWARENESS AMONG GOA POLICE OFFICIALS OF THE GROWING ABUSE IN ARGENTINA AS DESCRIBED REF B. AS A RESULT LOCAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS, AT LEAST FOR THE SHORT TERM, HAVE FOCUSED ON THE STREET LEVEL PUSHER OF COCAINE, MARIHUANA AND AMPHETAMINES, RATHER THAN ON THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL VIOLATORS WHO RESIDE IN ARGENTINA BUT APPARENTLY ARE CAREFUL NOT TO TRAFFIC IN THE COUNTRY.

3. PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING. THE CONTINUED PRESSURE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE AGAINST TRAFFICKERS CONTINUES TO CAUSE MANY OF CHILEAN COCAINE PRODUCERS TO BASE THEIR ACTIVITIES IN BUENOS AIRES OR NORTHERN ARGENTINA.

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4. TRAFFICKING TRENDS. NO CHANGE.

5. ENFORCEMENT. ON SEP 4 THE DEA REGIONAL OFFICE WAS MOVED FROM BUENOS AIRES TO CARACAS WITH NO SLIPPAGE IN ACTIVITIES OF THE BADO. USING FUNDS AUTHORIZED BY CCINC FOR TRAVEL, PER DIEM AND OTHER EXPENSES, DURING THE QUARTER FEDERAL NARCOTICS POLICE BEGAN SEVERAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE PROVINCES. DEBATE BEGAN IN CONGRESS ON NEW AND MORE SEVERE NARCOTICS LEGISLATION IN LATE SEP. HOWEVER, THE DETERIORATING SECURITY SITUATION NOW PREVAILING IN ARGENTINA CAUSED THE PROPOSED LAW, AND OTHERS, TO BE SIDE-TRACKED WHILE BOTH CHAMBERS DEBATED NEW ANTITERRORIST LEGISLATION. ALTHOUGH CONGRESS IS IN SCHEDULED ADJOURNMENT FOR THE MONTH OF OCT, PASSAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT-BACKED NARCOTICS BILL SHOULD OCCUR SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

6. TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, EDUCATION. DURING THE QUARTER THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF CONATON, ACTING IN HIS CAPACITY AS DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR SOCIAL REHABILITATION, COMPLETED A THREE-MINUTE FLM CLIP ON THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE. THE FILM WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE GOVERNMENT NEWSREELS TO BE SHOWN IN 600 THEATRES FOR ONE WEEK EACH OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

7. TRAINING. IN SEP THE DEA NATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE HELD THREE ONE-WEEK SEMINARS; TWO IN THE PROVINCES AND ONE IN BUENOS AIRES FOR APPROXIMATELY 150 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS. THE STUDENTS WERE PRIMARILY FROM THE GENDARMERIA NACIONAL, BUT MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL POLICE WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

8. REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION. NEGATIVE.

9. EMBASSY AND HOST COUNTRY ACTIVITIES. AS INDICATED ABOVE, THE INCREASING TERRORIST ACTIVITIES CONTINUE TO DOMINATE THE GOVERNMENT'S THINKING AND CONCERN AT THE POLICY LEVEL. HOWEVER, THE WORKING LEVEL GOA ELEMENTS CONCERNED WITH NARCOTIC CONTINUE TO FUNCTION NORMALLY.
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